



The Getty Research Institute
Office of the Associate Director

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles, CA 90049-1688

Call for Applications

Mellon Summer Institute in Italian Paleography

July 16–August 9, 2007

The Getty Research Institute
Los Angeles, California

Directed by Maddalena Signorini, Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata"

This four-week residential course offers intensive training in the accurate reading and transcription of handwritten Italian vernacular texts from the late medieval through the early modern periods. The course is intended to enable scholars in various fields of specialization to acquire the skills to deal with primary sources. While the major emphasis is on paleographical skills, the course offers an introduction to codicological techniques, and considers the history of scripts within the larger literary, intellectual, and social contexts of Italy. Students receive an introduction to a wide range of types of writing and documents, from literary to legal, notarial, official, ecclesiastical, business, and family documents. The course includes an overview of the system of Italian archives—public, ecclesiastical, and private. Students also have the opportunity to work with original texts, using inventories, letters, diaries, and other types of manuscripts and documents from the special collections of the Research Library at the Getty Research Institute.

The institute enrolls fifteen participants. Advanced language skills in Italian are required. First consideration is given to graduate students and junior faculty from colleges and universities in the United States. Professional staff from museums and libraries, as well as qualified independent scholars, may also apply. Each participant receives a stipend of \$1,890 to help defray the costs of housing and travel.

Directing the institute is Maddalena Signorini, associate professor of Latin paleography at the Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata." Professor Signorini is an experienced teacher of Latin and vernacular paleography. She is a widely published and distinguished scholar whose own research interests are in Italian vernacular texts and the context of transcription in the late medieval and early Renaissance periods. She has published extensively on Petrarch, the culture of literacy, copyists, and the early moment of the printed book.

For more information and application materials, please contact Joli Kishi at JKishi@getty.edu.

Application deadline is **March 1, 2007**.

This course is one of eight summer institutes in vernacular paleography supported by a grant from the Mellon Foundation, and the last scheduled on Italian paleography. For more information on the Spanish, English, and French paleography institutes to be held at research libraries in the United States in 2007–2008, please visit www.newberry.org.